

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-10 MC-02 EB-07 OMB-01

TRSE-00 COME-00 AID-05 IGA-01 L-02 H-02 EUR-12 NEA-09

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /072 W

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R 301555Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6514

INFO USCINCSO

UNCLAS LA PAZ 3023

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, XX

SUBJ: THIRD COUNTRY ASSISTANCE TO FY 1976

PROSPECTIVE MAP RECIPIENTS

REF: STATE 082288

1. AS REQUESTED REFTEL, THE FOLLOWING IS  
SUBMITTED REGARDING ARMS SUPPLIED TO BOLIVIA BY  
THIRD COUNTRIES.

A. ARMORED VEHICLES:

ARGENTINA: SIX M-5 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS,  
VINTAGE U.S., FAIR QUALITY, GRANT AID;  
SWITZERLAND: THIRTY ROLAND ARMORED CARS, GOOD  
QUALITY, PURCHASED ON LIBERAL TERMS;  
VENEZUELA: TEN M3AI TANKS, VINTAGE U.S.,  
FAIR TO POOR QUALITY, GRANT AID.

B. COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT:

BRAZIL: ONE RADIO TRANSMITTER STATION, GOOD QUALITY, GRAND AID;  
SWITZERLAND: THIRTY RADIO RECEIVERS FOR ARMORED CARS,  
GOOD QUALITY, PURCHASED ON LIBERAL TERMS;  
VENEZUELA: SIXTY-NINE FIELD RADIOS, THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-  
EIGHT PORTABLE RADIOS, FAIR QUALITY, GRANT AID.

C. SMALL ARMS:

ISRAEL: TWO HUNDRED FIVE 9MM SUBMACHINE GUNS,  
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FAIR TO GOOD QUALITY, PURCHASED ON LIBERAL TERMS;

SWITZERLAND: TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED 7.62 MM  
RIFLES, FAIR TO GOOD QUALITY, PURCHASED ON LIBERAL TERMS;  
WEST GERMANY: SIXTY 9MM MACHINE PISTOLS,  
GOOD QUALITY, PURCHASED ON LIBERAL TERMS.

D. AIRCRAFT:

BRAZIL: SEVENTEEN LIGHT TRAINERS, GOOD QUALITY,  
PURCHASED ON LIBERAL TERMS;  
BRAZIL: FOURTEEN TRAINERS, VINTAGE U.S., POOR TO FAIR QUALITY,  
GRANT AID;  
BRAZIL: TWO MEDIUM TRANSPORTS, VINTAGE U.S., FAIR QUALITY,  
GRANT AID;  
CANADA: THIRTEEN JET TRAINERS, GOOD QUALITY, PURCHASED ON  
LIBERAL TERMS;  
FRANCE: THREE UTILITY HELICOPTERS, PURCHASED ON  
LIBERAL TERMS, NOT YET DELIVERED.  
SPAIN: SIX MEDIUM TRANSPORTS, FAIR QUALITY, PURCHASED ON  
LIBERAL TERMS;  
VENEZUELA: ELEVEN JET FIGHTERS, VINTAGE U.S.; SIX  
LIGHT BOMBERS, PURCHASED FOR TOKEN PRICE, VIRTUALLY A GIFT.  
ISRAEL: SIX LIGHT UTILITY TRANSPORTS, BEING PURCHASED  
UNDER APPARENTLY LIBERAL TERMS FOR MID-1975 DELIVERY.  
E. NAVAL CRAFT:  
ARGENTINA: TWO SMALL PATROL BOATS, FAIR QUALITY, GRANT  
AID; ONE BARGE, FAIR QUALITY GRANT AID.

2. ALL OF THE ABOVE MEET BONA FIDE NEEDS, OR AT LEAST DESIRES,  
OF BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES. THE QUALITY, DUE TO AGE, OF SOME OF  
THE EQUIPMENT OBTAINED THROUGH GRANT AID OR ON VERY GENEROUS TERMS-  
SUCH AS THE VENEZUELAN AIRCRAFT LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED. IN  
SOME CASES, MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLY SUPPORT OF VINTAGE EQUIPMENT  
HAS BEEN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO SUSTAIN.

3. THE THIRD PARTIES WHICH HAVE DELIVERED ARMS TO BOLIVIA  
UNDER GRANT AID, OR UNDER VERY GENEROUS TERMS WHICH AMOUNT TO  
BEING VIRTUAL GRANTS, DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE FOLLOWED PRACTICES  
INIMICAL TO US INTERESTS. IN THESE CASES, THE ARMS THUS GRANTED  
HAVE BEEN VINTAGE EQUIPMENT, SURPLUS TO  
THE DONORS' NEEDS AND GIVEN TO BOLIVIA  
WITH MINIMAL SUPPORT IN THE WAY OF SPARE PARTS,  
AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT OR TRAINING.  
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4. THE RELATIVE LOW QUANTITY AND QUALITY  
OF ARMS RECEIVED UNDER GRANT AID THROUGH THIRD  
PARTIES BY BOLIVIA HAVE NOT PROVIDED AN  
EFFECTIVE LEVER FOR INFLUENCING INCREASED  
US GRANT AID, AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO OVERT  
RESORTS TO THIS STRATEGY. THE GOB HAS  
REALISTICALLY ACCEPTED THE DECREASES

IN US MILITARY GRANT AID AND IS SEEKING  
INCREASED US MILITARY SALES CREDITS. IN ITS  
DESIRE FOR MODERNIZATION AND INCREASED  
EFFECTIVENESS OF ITS ARMED FORCES, BOLIVIA  
MAY BE EXPECTED TO TURN TO ANY ARMS SOURCE  
WHICH OFFERS THE BEST BARGAIN, WHETHER IN  
THE FORM OF GRANT AID OF LIBERAL SALES CREDITS  
AND TERMS.

5. ALTHOUGH NO SINGLE ITEM OF ABOVE LIST OF ACQUISITIONS IS  
CLASSIFIED, THE TOTAL LISTING AND THE OPINIONS OF THE QUALITY OF  
EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS SENSITIVE TO THE GOB AND SHOULD  
RECEIVE DISCRETE HANDLING IN REGARD TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.  
STEDMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, DATA, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, FOREIGN INTEREST REPRESENTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 APR 1975  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1975LAPAZ03023  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750152-0273  
**From:** LA PAZ  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975044/aaaaadgx.tel  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** THIRD COUNTRY ASSISTANCE TO FY 1976 PROSPECTIVE MAP RECIPIENTS  
**TAGS:** MASS, XX  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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